

Schering AG
Germany

Skinoren®

Identification

Skinoren is the brand name for a cream containing 20% azelaic acid. It also contains benzoic acid, PEG-30 stearate, glyceryl monostearate, Cutina CBS, cetearyl octanoate, propylene glycol, glycerol and water. Skinoren is available in tubes containing 30 g of cream.

Its AUST R number is 42936.

What is it used for and how does it work?

Skinoren cream is used to treat acne vulgaris, usually simply called acne. When rubbed into the skin, the azelaic acid in Skinoren kills the bacteria that cause acne. In addition Skinoren stops the acne relevant (epidermal) skin cells from growing too strongly and thus blocking the pores of the skin to form pimples.

Checklist before using Skinoren

Contraindications:

You should not use Skinoren cream if you are allergic to it or to propylene glycol.

Precautions for use:

You should be careful not to get Skinoren in your eyes when putting it onto your face.

The absorption of Skinoren cream into the blood stream is very limited.

It is not known whether Skinoren cream will harm infants when used by pregnant or breast feeding women.

Interactions:

There is no information available on the use of Skinoren cream in conjunction with other acne treatments, sunscreens or cosmetics.

How to use Skinoren properly

Skinoren cream should be applied to the affected areas of the skin morning and night, and should be used regularly over several months. This dosage may be modified by your doctor or pharmacist. Skinoren should be rubbed in gently until vanishing.

Before Skinoren is applied, the skin should be thoroughly cleaned with water, or with a mild skin-cleansing agent.

Be careful not to get Skinoren cream in your eyes when putting it on your face. Skinoren is very irritant to the eyes. If Skinoren is accidentally rubbed into your eye, you should immediately rinse your eye with large amounts of water.

The length of time that Skinoren needs to be used will vary from person to person, and will also depend on the initial severity of your acne. Improvement is usually noticed within 1-2 months of use, but to obtain the best results, Skinoren should be used regularly over several months. Whilst in most cases you will probably not need to use Skinoren for more than 6 months, it may be used for longer periods, and may also be re-used after a period of stopping.

If your condition does not improve within 8 weeks you should consult your doctor or pharmacist.

Further information

Skinoren cream is only available from your pharmacy. A prescription is not required. Skinoren is for external use only. It should not be swallowed.

Unwanted effects

Local skin irritations such as redness, scaling, itching, stinging or burning, can occur at the start of treatment. This usually goes as treatment continues. Discolouration of the skin has also been observed. If marked skin irritation persists, the treatment should be stopped until the irritation goes, and you should ask your doctor or pharmacist before recommencing.

In case of overdose

Vomiting may occur if large amounts of Skinoren are swallowed, though no other problems should be expected, you should seek medical advice.

Storage conditions

Skinoren cream should be stored below 30 °C and should not be used after the expiry date printed on the end of the box and on the base of the tube.

Where to go for further information

Should you have any questions on the use of Skinoren cream you should discuss these with your pharmacist or doctor.

Sponsor

Skinoren is distributed in Australia by Schering Pty Limited, 27-31 Doody Street, Alexandria NSW 2015. A.C.N. 000 023 361.

Date of information

This document was last reviewed in November 1998.

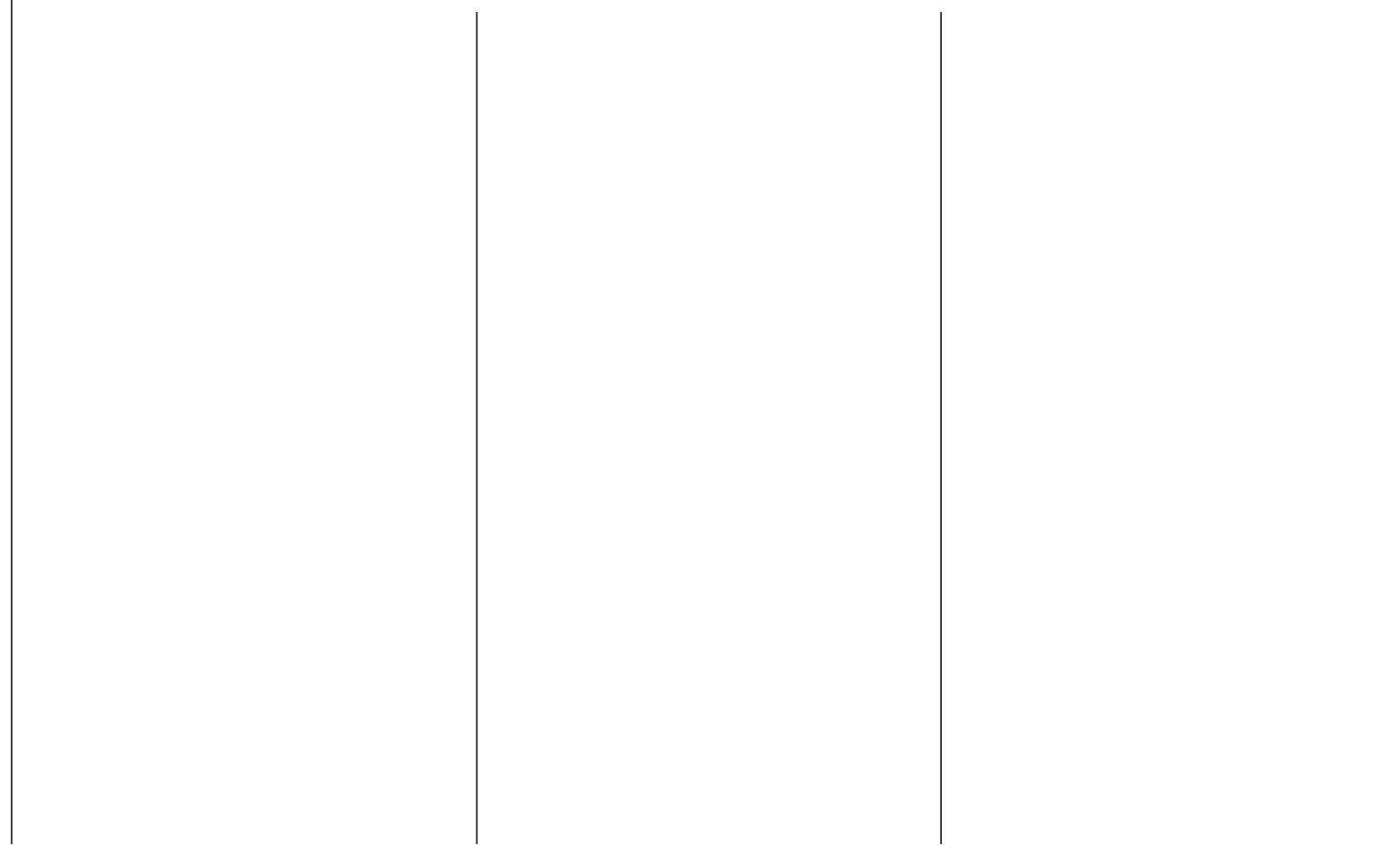
This leaflet provides a summary of some of the important things you need to know about this medicine. Only your doctor and pharmacist are able to weigh up all the relevant facts and you should consult them about all aspects of this medicine as it relates to you.

AUSTRALIA/NZL 1945310

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